



ROSIE'S PLACE

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September 13, 2017

Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268-0001

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

RE: Docket No. RM 2017-12

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing on behalf of Rosie's Place, our board, staff and, most importantly, the poor and homeless women we serve. We rely on the U.S. Mail to raise funds and communicate with our donors and supporters. Without the mail, our fundraising would suffer severely and, as a consequence, so would our mission. Rosie's Place relies solely on the generous support of individuals, foundations and corporations and does not accept any city, state or federal funding. It is imperative for us to reach our supporters through the mail as we depend on their generosity to sustain our programs and services.

A sudden increase in nonprofit marketing mail rates for the nominal benefit of commercial marketing mail would present a real financial hardship for us. We depend on the nonprofit discounted rate to keep our costs low. The nonprofit rate makes it possible for us to mail our existing donors and reach potential new ones through our direct mail marketing program.

As a practical matter, injecting unanticipated increases such as those proposed by USPS in January of 2018 will mean that we will have to face increased and unexpected costs in the middle of our fiscal year. Thus, the proposed postage increases would present a significant challenge to us when our budget is already set for the year and could hurt our ability to meet our fundraising goals. Respectfully, we ask you to consider this consequence.

Please do not change the current system for calculating nonprofit rates. Implemented by the Postal Service ten years ago, we see no pressing need for a change, especially not one that will do harm to all nonprofits using the mail.

Sincerely,

Liz Silva
Development Operations Manager
Rosie's Place